REMARKS

As a preliminary matter, Applicants note that the Examiner has made the rejection final. Applicants submit that the final rejection is premature because new grounds of rejection have been introduced by the Examiner which were neither necessitated by Applicants' amendment of the claims nor based on information submitted in an information disclosure statement. Applicants' previous amendment was responsive to a §112 rejection of independent claims 1 and 18-20 as omitting essential structure and steps. The previous amendment of the claims was merely made to more clearly describe the present invention, but did not necessitate new grounds of rejection. Applicants request reconsideration and withdrawal of the finality of the rejection.

As another preliminary matter, the title stands objected to as not being descriptive of the invention. The title is amended to: "DISPLAY DEVICE EMPLOYING A FIELD-SEQUENTIAL METHOD." Since no new matter has been added, Applicants respectfully request that the amendment be entered and the objection be withdrawn.

Claims 1, 4-6, 8-9, 11-12, 14-15, 17-18 and 20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Fergason ('422) in view of Nonomura et al. ('021). Also, claims 2-3, 7, 10, 13, 16 and 19 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Fergason ('422) in view of Nonomura et al. ('021) and Okumura et al. ('534). Applicants traverse the rejection of all claims because the cited references do not disclose or suggest a field-sequential method for a color display having a light source that produce a

plurality of colors of emitted light, and a light emission switching unit for sequentially switching the plurality of colors of emitted light of the light source within one frame, as in all independent claims 1, 18, 19 and 20.

Fergason discloses a computer control device having the functions of a light emission switching circuit for controlling switching of a liquid crystal element and a control circuit for controlling synchronization of a light emission timing and switching. However, Fergason does not mention either the field-sequential method as featured in all independent claims 1, 18, 19 and 20, or even an example of color display.

Nonomura et al. does not remedy the deficiencies of Fergason. Nonomura et al. also do not describe field-sequential switching. They merely disclose determining a frame frequency based on the operation temperature of liquid crystal (col. 4, lines 39-50). They further disclose that the frame frequency is reduced in a low temperature environment in which the performance response of the liquid crystal is slow, and the frame frequency is increased in a high temperature environment in which performance response of the liquid crystal is quick (because the operation characteristics of the liquid crystal are related to the environmental temperature). However, Nonomura et al. change the frame frequency according to temperature merely to provide a reliable display, not to reduce color break, which is a feature of the present invention. For at least these reasons, the rejections of all the claims should be withdrawn.

With respect to the rejection of claims 2-3, 7, 10, 13, 16 and 19 specifically, in addition to the arguments asserted above, Okumura et al. do not remedy the deficiencies of Fergason and Nonumura et al. None of the references disclose changing the number of frames per unit of time depending on whether data is motion picture or still picture data. Okumura et al. disclose a discrimination circuit for judging whether display data is motion picture data or still data. However, Okumura et al. merely teach changing the characteristics (gate voltage, gate-on time or the like) of a TFT depending on whether the data is motion picture or still picture. Okumura et al. do not change the number of frames per unit of time depending on whether data is motion picture or still picture data, which is a feature of the present invention.

Contrary to the Examiner's assertion that it would have been obvious in image displaying to switch the number of frames to avoid flicker, it would not have been obvious to increase the number of frames in order to reduce color break, an inherent problem of the field-sequential method. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection of independent claims 1 and 18-20, and the related dependent claims, is respectfully requested.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicants believe that this case is in condition for allowance, which is respectfully requested. The Examiner should call Applicants' attorney if an interview would expedite prosecution.

Respectfully submitted,

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